

RSI
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Projections for Military Planners

1. The NIPP process cannot easily be thought of as separate from National Intelligence Estimates or vice a versa. The two documents need to be consistent in their thrust, their principal difference being only in level of detail. The NIPP in its present format is a general-purpose document; that is, it makes no effort to differentiate the detail with which it presents data on special problem areas, from the level of detail on topics not currently related to an immediate defense issue.

2. There is a question in my mind as to whether there is a better way than the present--admittedly cumbersome--process, of producing a general purpose set of projections, once a year, consistent with the NIE's, on the community-wide coordinated basis. The strength of the present procedure is that a great deal of the staff work is done on an ad hoc basis which allows somewhat greater latitude on the part of the intelligence specialists who are participating in the NIE process.

Because the present NIPP is general purpose it provides some information of little interest to some planners, and in other areas not enough detail and meat at the right time to satisfy special purpose needs.

3. There is under the present procedure a salutary relationship between the NIE's and the NIPP. Because they are done relatively concurrently the details which are worked out in the NIPP tend to provide the basis for the broader judgments of the NIE and vice versa. This interaction during the formulation of the NIE particularly tends to make both documents better than either would be if done separately.